

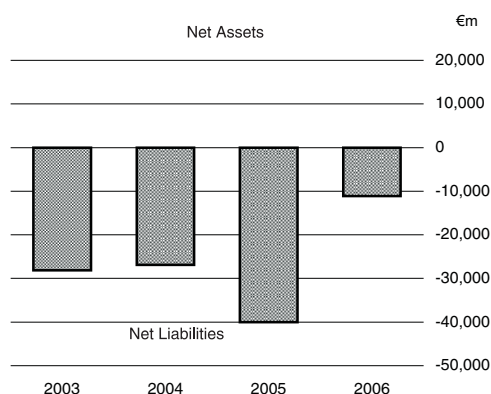


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International Investment Position 31 December 2006

Ireland's Net IIP Position



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	€ million		
	Assets Stock	Liabilities Stock	Net Position
End 2006	2,002,847	2,013,994	-11,147
End 2005	1,681,440	1,721,428	-39,988
End 2004	1,290,286	1,317,194	-26,908
End 2003	1,080,293	1,108,442	-28,149

Ireland's stocks of foreign financial assets and liabilities exceed €2 trillion at end-2006

At end-December 2006, Ireland's overall stocks of foreign financial assets amounted to €2,003bn while corresponding liabilities reached €2,014bn. Irish residents therefore had an overall net liability of €11bn to non-residents, down significantly from the previous year's revised figure of almost €40bn – see *Table 1*. Some additional points of note in the 2006 results are:

- ◆ Overall *Portfolio Investment* stocks of both assets and liabilities showed substantial increases in 2006 with assets of €1,210bn which were up €208bn on the 2005 level of €1,002bn; liabilities of €1,224bn were €198bn higher than the 2005 figure of €1,026bn. Net transactions in assets during 2006 accounted for €215bn of the change in stocks but this was slightly offset by valuation and other changes of €7bn (mainly from market price and exchange rate movements). Net transactions in liabilities amounted to almost €200bn with valuation and other changes decreasing the stock level by €1.3bn – see *Table 4b* and the box below.
- ◆ *Direct Investment Abroad* continued its upward trend and at €93.6bn was up €5.3 billion on 2005. In contrast, *Direct Investment in Ireland* has continued to decline since 2003 and at €118.9bn in 2006 was down almost €20bn on 2005. This was due to a combination of decreased stocks of equity (including reinvested earnings), from €184.5bn in 2005 to €171.1bn in 2006 and to increased outflows of *other capital*, from €45.8bn to €52.2bn in 2006 (mainly loans from IFSC enterprises to their affiliates abroad) – see *Tables 2a, 2b* and *4a*.

This Release provides end 2006 data and updates the annual series of international investment position (IIP) statistics for Ireland. It also incorporates revisions to the 2005, 2004 and 2003 data arising partly from revised Balance of Payments statistics released on 28 June 2007 and partly from improved stock data from respondents. In addition, due to new data on special purpose vehicles (SPVs) involved in securitisations, there are large changes to the stock levels of *Other Investment Assets* and *Portfolio Investment Liabilities*. The related transaction data have not yet been reflected in the corresponding BOP statistics but have temporarily been included in the "Valuation & Other changes" entries in tables 4a and 4b of this release – see *Background Notes*.

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Table 1 - International Investment Position (IIP) - Main Aggregate Data

€ million

Item	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 ¹	2004 ¹	2005 ¹	2006
Foreign Assets									
Direct Investment Abroad ²	17,342	25,116	30,011	46,317	56,148	58,054	78,329	88,287	93,619
Portfolio Investment	163,961 ³	285,211	366,867	491,141	547,314	660,743	787,249	1,002,129	1,210,098
Other Investment ⁴	175,943	253,291	277,467	306,286	318,351	358,201	422,568	590,279	698,490
Reserve Assets	6,434 ³	5,355	5,807	6,400	5,227	3,295	2,140	745	640
Total Foreign Assets	363,680	568,973	680,152	850,144	927,040	1,080,293	1,290,286	1,681,440	2,002,847
Foreign Liabilities									
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	53,315	72,482	136,581	152,108	174,404	176,435	152,446	138,620	118,900
Portfolio Investment	140,945	224,621	310,528	412,082	447,063	542,200	720,952	1,025,902	1,224,126
Other Investment ⁴	149,185	226,185	241,417	303,801	329,002	389,807	443,796	556,906	670,968
Total Foreign Liabilities	343,445	523,288	688,526	867,991	950,469	1,108,442	1,317,194	1,721,428	2,013,994
Net International Investment Position (IIP)									
Direct Investment ²	-35,973	-47,366	-106,570	-105,791	-118,256	-118,381	-74,117	-50,333	-25,281
Portfolio Investment	23,016 ³	60,590	56,339	79,059	100,251	118,543	66,297	-23,773	-14,028
Other Investment ⁴	26,758	27,106	36,050	2,485	-10,651	-31,606	-21,228	33,373	27,522
Reserve Assets	6,434 ³	5,355	5,807	6,400	5,227	3,295	2,140	745	640
Total (Net IIP)	20,235	45,685	-8,374	-17,847	-23,429	-28,149	-26,908	-39,988	-11,147

¹ Revised² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes)³ Reflects the introduction of the Euro on 1 January 1999 and the resulting re-classification of part of Reserve Assets under Portfolio Investment⁴ Includes financial derivatives and trade credits

Table 2a - International Investment Position - Detailed Data

€ million

Item	2003 ¹	2004 ¹	2005 ¹	2006
Foreign Assets				
Direct Investment Abroad ²	58,054	78,329	88,287	93,619
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	53,476	67,371	74,327	83,041
Other capital	4,578	10,958	13,960	10,578
Portfolio Investment	660,743	787,249	1,002,129	1,210,098
Equity	176,170	223,877	324,790	412,706
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	6,752	8,777	12,191	15,052
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	159	841	1,535	3,006
<i>Other sectors</i>	169,259	214,259	311,064	394,648
Debt instruments	484,573	563,372	677,339	797,392
Bonds and notes	300,265	348,713	453,724	518,682
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	2,961	3,999	6,234	6,124
<i>General government</i>	1,341	1,485	1,762	2,416
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	138,194	185,803	254,475	305,150
<i>Other sectors</i>	157,769	157,426	191,253	204,992
Money market instruments	184,308	214,659	223,615	278,710
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	921	1,535	1,496	1,956
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	158,762	181,101	207,385	257,748
<i>Other sectors</i>	24,625	32,023	14,734	19,006
Other Investment	358,201	422,568	590,279	698,490
Loans, currency and deposits	307,949	374,960	510,653	611,046
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	2,375	2,056	2,321	3,187
<i>General government</i>	735	1,049	1,212	905
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	150,212	178,291	248,937	306,664
<i>Other sectors</i>	154,627	193,564	258,183	300,290
Trade Credits	22,861	21,318	27,870	28,014
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other sectors</i>	22,861	21,318	27,870	28,014
Other assets ⁵	27,391	26,290	51,756	59,430
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	467	570	570	558
<i>General government</i>	128	-2	22	-27
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	9,852	5,386	10,168	10,504
<i>Other sectors</i>	16,944	20,336	40,996	48,395
Reserve assets	3,295	2,140	745	640
Monetary gold	64	62	84	93
Special drawing rights	62	65	74	72
Reserve Position in the IMF	457	308	150	100
Foreign Exchange	2,712	1,705	437	375
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Foreign Assets	1,080,293	1,290,286	1,681,440	2,002,847

¹ Revised² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes)³ Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland⁴ Excludes the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland⁵ Includes financial derivatives

Table 2b - International Investment Position - Detailed Data

€ million

Item	2003 ¹	2004 ¹	2005 ¹	2006
Foreign Liabilities				
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	176,435	152,446	138,620	118,900
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	178,070	167,661	184,457	171,106
Other capital	-1,635	-15,215	-45,837	-52,206
Portfolio Investment	542,200	720,952	1,025,902	1,224,126
Equity	381,403	450,650	603,823	722,654
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	159,477	189,073	235,244	286,768
<i>Other sectors</i>	221,926	261,577	368,579	435,886
Debt instruments	160,797	270,302	422,079	501,472
Bonds and notes	118,365	209,995	319,055	399,456
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	21,412	25,166	26,852	27,119
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	33,359	68,505	106,051	136,877
<i>Other sectors</i>	63,594	116,324	186,152	235,460
Money market instruments	42,432	60,307	103,024	102,016
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	1,992	204	0	0
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	27,457	41,354	73,157	77,962
<i>Other sectors</i>	12,983	18,749	29,867	24,054
Other Investment	389,807	443,796	556,906	670,968
Loans, currency and deposits	326,608	371,658	476,859	567,031
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	10,340	6,681	4,509	2,545
<i>General government</i>	252	283	135	159
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	238,601	285,404	373,516	450,713
<i>Other sectors</i>	77,415	79,290	98,699	113,614
Trade Credits	14,138	13,386	16,955	21,747
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other sectors</i>	14,138	13,386	16,955	21,747
Other liabilities ⁵	49,061	58,752	63,092	82,190
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	112	115	116	109
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	8,223	11,873	5,010	10,605
<i>Other sectors</i>	40,726	46,764	57,966	71,476
Total Foreign Liabilities	1,108,442	1,317,194	1,721,428	2,013,994

¹ Revised² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes)³ Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland⁴ Excludes the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland⁵ Includes financial derivatives

Table 3 – International Investment Position (IIP) showing IFSC and non-IFSC activity

€ million

Item	2003 ¹	2004 ¹	2005 ¹	2006
Foreign Assets				
Direct Investment Abroad ²	58,054	78,329	88,287	93,619
- IFSC	16,846	18,864	19,791	22,290
- non IFSC	41,208	59,468	68,495	71,329
Portfolio Investment	660,743	787,249	1,002,129	1,210,098
- IFSC	564,392	673,245	850,955	1,031,921
- non IFSC	96,351	114,003	151,174	178,177
Other Investment ³	358,201	422,568	590,279	698,490
- IFSC	289,982	349,628	481,410	567,622
- non IFSC	68,219	72,938	108,870	130,868
Reserve Assets	3,295	2,140	745	640
- IFSC	0	0	0	0
- non IFSC	3,295	2,140	745	640
Total Foreign Assets	1,080,293	1,290,286	1,681,440	2,002,847
- IFSC	871,220	1,041,737	1,352,156	1,621,833
- non IFSC	209,073	248,549	329,284	381,014
Foreign Liabilities				
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	176,435	152,446	138,620	118,900
- IFSC	78,855	61,755	40,548	54,544
- non IFSC	97,580	90,693	98,072	64,356
Portfolio Investment	542,200	720,952	1,025,902	1,224,126
- IFSC	458,165	610,797	878,908	1,040,360
- non IFSC	84,035	110,154	146,993	183,765
Other Investment ³	389,807	443,796	556,906	670,968
- IFSC	276,316	302,805	380,767	467,846
- non IFSC	113,490	140,990	176,139	203,123
Total Foreign Liabilities	1,108,442	1,317,194	1,721,428	2,013,994
- IFSC	813,336	975,357	1,300,223	1,562,750
- non IFSC	295,106	341,837	421,205	451,244
Net International Investment Position (IIP)				
Direct Investment ²	-118,381	-74,117	-50,333	-25,281
- IFSC	-62,009	-42,891	-20,757	-32,254
- non IFSC	-56,372	-31,226	-29,576	6,973
Portfolio Investment	118,543	66,297	-23,773	-14,028
- IFSC	106,228	62,449	-27,953	-8,439
- non IFSC	12,315	3,848	4,180	-5,589
Other Investment ³	-31,606	-21,228	33,373	27,522
- IFSC	13,666	46,823	100,643	99,776
- non IFSC	-45,272	-68,052	-67,270	-72,254
Reserve Assets	3,295	2,140	745	640
- IFSC	0	0	0	0
- non IFSC	3,295	2,140	745	640
Total (Net IIP)	-28,149	-26,908	-39,988	-11,147
- IFSC	57,885	66,381	51,933	59,083
- non IFSC	-86,034	-93,289	-91,921	-70,230

¹ Revised

² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes)

³ Includes financial derivatives and trade credits

Table 4a - International Investment Position (IIP) - 2006 - Reconciliation of IIP and BOP Flows

€ million

Item	Opening Position 1/1/06	Bop Flows in Year	Valuation and Other Changes	Closing Position 31/12/06
Foreign Assets				
Direct Investment Abroad ¹	88,287	11,746	-6,414	93,619
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	74,327	15,228	-6,514	83,041
Other capital	13,960	-3,483	101	10,578
Portfolio Investment	1,002,129	214,988	-7,019	1,210,098
Equity	324,790	59,513	28,403	412,706
Debt instruments	677,339	155,476	-35,423	797,392
<i>Bonds and notes</i>	<i>453,724</i>	<i>89,467</i>	<i>-24,509</i>	<i>518,682</i>
<i>Money market instruments</i>	<i>223,615</i>	<i>66,008</i>	<i>-10,913</i>	<i>278,710</i>
Other Investment	590,279	95,094	13,117	698,490
Loans, currency and deposits	510,653	89,886	10,507	611,046
Other ²	79,626	5,209	2,609	87,444
Reserve Assets	745	-87	-18	640
Total Foreign Assets	1,681,440	321,741	-334	2,002,847
Foreign Liabilities				
Direct Investment in Ireland ¹	138,620	-747	-18,973	118,900
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	184,457	4,278	-17,629	171,106
Other capital	-45,837	-5,027	-1,342	-52,206
Portfolio Investment	1,025,902	199,566	-1,342	1,224,126
Equity	603,823	128,468	-9,637	722,654
Debt instruments	422,079	71,096	8,297	501,472
<i>Bonds and notes</i>	<i>319,055</i>	<i>64,596</i>	<i>15,805</i>	<i>399,456</i>
<i>Money market instruments</i>	<i>103,024</i>	<i>6,501</i>	<i>-7,509</i>	<i>102,016</i>
Other Investment	556,906	131,359	-17,297	670,968
Loans, currency and deposits	476,859	105,731	-15,559	567,031
Other ²	80,047	25,629	-1,739	103,937
Total Foreign Liabilities	1,721,428	330,178	-37,612	2,013,994

¹ Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes)

² Includes financial derivatives and trade credits

Table 4b - International Investment Position (IIP) - 2005¹ - Reconciliation of IIP and BOP Flows

€ million

Item	Opening Position 1/1/05	Bop Flows in Year	Valuation and Other Changes	Closing Position 31/12/05
Foreign Assets				
Direct Investment Abroad ²	78,329	11,509	-1,551	88,287
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	67,371	7,311	-355	74,327
Other capital	10,958	4,197	-1,195	13,960
Portfolio Investment	787,249	120,759	94,121	1,002,129
Equity	223,877	48,205	52,708	324,790
Debt instruments	563,372	72,555	41,412	677,339
<i>Bonds and notes</i>	<i>348,713</i>	<i>73,668</i>	<i>31,343</i>	<i>453,724</i>
<i>Money market instruments</i>	<i>214,659</i>	<i>-1,112</i>	<i>10,068</i>	<i>223,615</i>
Other Investment	422,568	111,242	56,469	590,279
Loans, currency and deposits	374,960	88,102	47,591	510,653
Other ³	47,608	23,141	8,877	79,626
Reserve Assets	2,140	-1,472	77	745
Total Foreign Assets	1,290,286	242,038	149,116	1,681,440
Foreign Liabilities				
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	152,446	-25,482	11,656	138,620
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	167,661	8,217	8,579	184,457
Other capital	-15,215	-33,698	3,076	-45,837
Portfolio Investment	720,952	173,459	131,491	1,025,902
Equity	450,650	75,642	77,531	603,823
Debt instruments	270,302	97,816	53,961	422,079
<i>Bonds and notes</i>	<i>209,995</i>	<i>61,049</i>	<i>48,011</i>	<i>319,055</i>
<i>Money market instruments</i>	<i>60,307</i>	<i>36,768</i>	<i>5,949</i>	<i>103,024</i>
Other Investment	443,796	93,577	19,533	556,906
Loans, currency and deposits	371,658	87,975	17,226	476,859
Other ³	72,138	5,601	2,308	80,047
Total Foreign Liabilities	1,317,194	241,554	162,680	1,721,428

¹ Revised

² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes)

³ Includes financial derivatives and trade credits

Background Notes (updated October 2007)

Introduction Ireland's balance of payments (BOP) quarterly statistical compilation system was completely overhauled in the late 1990's in order to: (a) strengthen sectoral and enterprise coverage in basic data collection; (b) adopt best international methodological standards; (c) conform more closely with international presentation formats; and, (d) provide for geographical analysis of the results. The improvements facilitate the production of data required by the European Central Bank (ECB) and the EU Commission (EUROSTAT) to compile balance of payments statistics for the EMU and EU areas. The needs of other international organisations (such as IMF and OECD) as well as those of national users have also been catered for.

As part of the overall expansion of the information available, a new annual series showing Ireland's *International Investment Position* (IIP) as at 31 December for the years 1998 – 2001 was introduced in a release published on 11 December 2002. This series is updated annually and this Release presents the 2006 data. The data presented concern the economy's end of year stocks of foreign assets and liabilities and, in essence, represent that element of Ireland's aggregate balance sheet which shows Irish residents' financial claims (assets) on non-residents along with their financial obligations (liabilities) to non-residents. It may be noted that the data presented on the liabilities side is consistent with the data published in the quarterly *External Debt* Release. As for the balance of payments and external debt statistics, the international investment position statistics shown in this Release distinguish direct investment, portfolio investment and other investment (including financial derivatives) along with reserve assets – see *Types of Investment* below. This presentation conforms closely with international presentation formats and the information is disseminated to different international organisations (i.e. the ECB, Eurostat, IMF and OECD) to meet their varied requirements.

International statistical standards A description of the methodology is given below. It follows as far as possible the recommendations of the IMF's *Balance of Payments Manual - 5th Edition* (BPM5) concerning compilation of international investment position statistics. This Manual was prepared in close co-operation with the European Commission (Eurostat), the OECD and other international organisations. It was published by the IMF in 1993. Since then certain modifications to the treatment of financial derivatives have been approved internationally and were published in 2000 by the IMF (*Financial Derivatives: A Supplement to the 5th Edition (1993) of the Balance of Payments Manual*). The BOP/IIP compilation methodology recommended by the IMF is consistent with its *External Debt (2003)* Manual recommendations on compiling external debt statistics.

Data collection The data required are collected quarterly on a statutory basis by means of surveys and other data collection arrangements conducted under the Statistics (Balance of Payments and Financial Accounts) Order, 2005 (S.I. No. 124 of 2005) made under the Statistics Act, 1993. These surveys are also used to collect quarterly balance of payments information, the combination of both stock and the related flow data reporting on a single form greatly facilitating the quality checking and reconciliation of both types of information. While the balance of payments flow data are published quarterly, the stock or international investment position (IIP) statistics are being published annually with a reference date of 31 December.

The survey collection system covers both financial and non-financial enterprises and was largely introduced in 1998. The financial enterprise surveys cover banking, insurance, asset financing, treasury, institutional investment, activities of mutual funds, unit trusts and similar collective investment operations, broking and other service provision. Financial enterprises, including those operating in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in Dublin, engaged in transactions with non-residents are required to make returns. Respondents are required to supply the data using either paper or electronic media. Exhaustive coverage is aimed at but, in order to reduce reporting burden, companies with low activity volumes may, on approval from the CSO, provide annual data. Overall, about 5,000 financial entities are surveyed.

Manufacturing and non-financial service enterprises have been reporting for balance of payments purposes to CSO for a number of years. The surveys directed towards these enterprises were re-designed to meet the conceptual and geographical analysis requirements specified in the international standards. Coverage is on a sample selection basis, those surveyed being selected

using CSO statistical register information concerning transactions with non-residents. About 500 companies make quarterly and/or annual returns.

The survey information collected for all types of enterprises covers transactions with non-residents concerning purchases and sales of services, income flows, and acquisitions and disposals of foreign assets or liabilities along with the opening and closing stocks of these assets and liabilities. While much of this information is used to compile the BOP flow data published quarterly, the latter balance sheet information is used to compile the IIP results shown in this Release.

Apart from survey data, administrative sources also provide information on non-resident transactions and stocks. For example, the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) provides flows and stocks information on Ireland's foreign debt and on other asset and liability transactions engaged in including those of the National Pensions Reserve Fund. In addition, the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland supplies information on reserve assets and other foreign assets/liabilities flows and stocks.

Latest developments

The compilation system has recently been further developed and refined to include the estimated values of a variety of cross-border transactions. Some of these relate to the current and capital accounts of the balance of payments but new data have also been collected and compiled on certain financial transactions which affect the financial account and, consequently, the international investment position statistics. These cover investment in residential and commercial property abroad by Irish residents where in addition to new estimates being included, investment in commercial property has been reclassified from *Portfolio Investment – Assets* to *Direct Investment Abroad*. New estimates for investment in Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) used for the purpose of securitising corporate assets have been included covering the period 2002 onwards. The securities issued by SPVs are mostly included under the *Bonds and Notes* heading in *Portfolio Investment – Liabilities* and the securitised assets are recorded in *Other Investment – Assets*.

Definition of the International Investment Position (IIP)

The *international investment position* (or IIP) is a point in time statistical statement of: the value and composition of the stock of an economy's foreign financial assets, or the economy's claims on the rest of the world, and the value and composition of the stock of an economy's financial liabilities (or obligations) to the rest of the world.

These assets and liabilities include land, other real property and other immovable items. In addition, monetary gold and special drawing rights (SDRs) owned by residents of the economy are included.

It may be of analytical interest to compute the difference between the two sides of the balance sheet, i.e. the net position. This gives a measure of that portion of an economy's net worth attributable to, or derived from, its relationship with the rest of the world.

A change in stocks during any defined period can be attributable to transactions (i.e. BOP flows), to revaluations reflecting changes in exchange rates, prices, etc. or to other adjustments (e.g. reclassifications, corrections, etc.).

As indicated above, the methodologies for compiling both the IIP liabilities and the External Debt statistics are consistent. However, the latter statement by definition covers all external debt liabilities other than those arising from transactions in equity and financial derivative contracts. Hence, for *Portfolio Investment*, the end-year IIP liability levels for *debt instruments* (i.e. *bonds and notes* and *money market instruments*) should be identical to the external debt stocks data for these instruments shown in the *External Debt* Release. Similarly, for *other investment*, the IIP liability figures under the items *loans*, *currency and deposits* and *trade credits* should be identical to the external debt stocks data obtained by aggregating the relevant long-term and short-term instrument details. Because of the exclusion of financial derivative contracts from the external debt statistics, this equivalence does not exist for the IIP liability under the item *other liabilities*. In addition, due to the adoption of the *directional principle* for recording direct investment IIP stocks (and BOP transactions), the end-year stocks under *direct investment in Ireland – other capital* are shown on a net basis i.e. inter-affiliate positions (transactions) are offset. In the *External Debt* Release, the relevant liability positions are shown on a gross basis and, hence, cannot be compared with the relevant IIP data.

Types of financial instrument

Equity securities are shares issued by companies to shareholders and cover all instruments representing claims on the residual value of incorporated enterprises after the claims of all creditors have been met. Shares, stocks, preferred stocks or shares and participation shares usually denote ownership of equity and are included. Also included are depositary receipts (e.g. American depositary receipts) denoting ownership of equity securities issued as well as equity securities that have been sold under repurchase agreements and equity securities that have been lent under securities lending arrangements. Units issued by collective investment institutions, e.g. investment funds, are regarded as equity instruments and are included. Non-participating preference shares are treated as debt securities under bonds and notes in Portfolio Investment. Positions in equity in which the investor holds less than 10% of the share capital of the company are recorded under Portfolio Investment. Otherwise, they are recorded under Direct Investment.

Reinvested earnings within Direct Investment consist of the offsetting entry to the direct investor's share of earnings not distributed as dividends by subsidiaries or associates and earnings of branches not remitted to the direct investor, but recorded under investment income.

Other capital within Direct Investment covers all inter-company financial transactions (borrowing and lending of funds) – including debt securities and suppliers' credits (i.e. trade credits) – between direct investors and subsidiaries, branches and associates.

Bonds and notes are tradable debt securities issued with an initial maturity of more than one year which usually give the holder (i) the unconditional right to a fixed monetary income or contractually determined variable monetary income and (ii) the unconditional right to a fixed sum in repayment of principal on a specified date or dates. These instruments may be issued by companies or by governments. Positions held between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) in bonds and notes are classified under Direct Investment. All other transactions are classified as Portfolio Investment (or under Reserve Assets if appropriate – see note on Reserve Assets below).

Money market instruments are debt securities issued with an initial maturity of one year or less. They generally give the holder the unconditional right to receive a stated, fixed sum of money on a specified date. These instruments are generally traded at a discount in organised markets, the discount being dependent upon the interest rate of the instrument relative to the market interest rate and the time remaining to maturity. Examples of such instruments are treasury bills, commercial and financial paper and bankers' acceptances. Transactions and positions between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) in money market instruments are classified under Direct Investment. All other transactions are classified as Portfolio Investment (or under Reserve Assets if appropriate – see note on Reserve Assets below).

Financial derivative contract stocks (and transactions) cover (a) over-the-counter (OTC) instruments such as options, interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements (FRAs), cross-currency interest rate swaps and forward foreign exchange contracts and (b) exchange-traded futures and options. They should be valued at marked-to-market prices and exclusive of the value of the underlying good, financial instrument or currency to which they relate. Derivative positions between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) are recorded under Direct Investment while positions between third parties are recorded in this Release under Other Investment.

Trade credits consist of claims or liabilities arising from the direct extension of credit relating to transactions in goods and services and advance payments for work in progress (or to be undertaken) associated with such transactions. Trade credits between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) are classified under Direct Investment. Otherwise, they are classified under Other Investment.

Loans/currency and deposits cover the following financial instruments: loans, i.e. those financial assets created through the direct lending of funds by a creditor (lender) to a debtor (borrower); cash deposits and currency (i.e. notes and coins which are in circulation and commonly used to make payments). Included are loans to finance trade, other loans and advances (including mortgages) as well as financial leases. Positions in these instruments are generally recorded under Other Investment. However, in the case of transactions between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries), the resulting positions are included under Direct Investment. In

particular, positions in permanent debt or subordinated loan capital between affiliated financial intermediaries is recorded under Direct Investment.

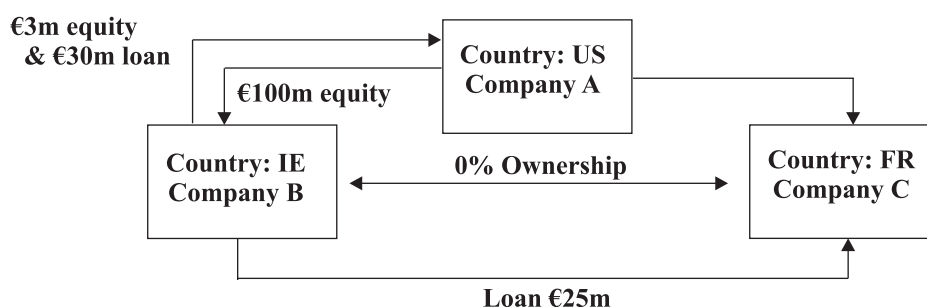
Stocks of all other financial instruments i.e. other than trade credits, loans and currency and deposits such as capital subscriptions of the participating Member States to international non-monetary organisations, changes in insurance technical reserves, offsets in respect of unsettled securities transactions are included in *other assets/other liabilities* within Other Investment (except where such positions arise from transactions between affiliated enterprises other than financial intermediaries) in which cases they are included under Direct Investment.

Types of investment

Four categories of functional investment are distinguished in the tables presented (i.e. *direct investment*, *portfolio investment*, *other investment* and *reserve assets*) and are based primarily on the relationship between the parties and secondly on the nature of the instrument involved. The category *other investment* includes the marked-to-market values of financial derivative positions.

Direct investment is a category of international investment that, based on an equity ownership of at least 10%, reflects a lasting interest by a resident in one economy (the direct investor) in an enterprise resident in another economy (the direct investment enterprise). Using this criterion, a direct investment relationship can exist between a number of affiliated enterprises whether the linkage involves a single chain or a number of chains. It can extend to a direct investment enterprise's subsidiaries, sub-subsidiaries and associates. Once the direct investment relationship is established, all subsequent financial flows between the related entities are recorded as direct investment transactions, regardless of the type of financial instrument used in the financing arrangement (except for financial intermediary affiliates among which direct investment transactions are limited to those involving equity and permanent debt). The components of direct investment transactions are *equity capital*, *reinvested earnings*, and *other capital*. *Equity capital* comprises investment in branches, shares in subsidiaries and associates (except non-participating preferred shares which are treated as debt securities) and other capital contributions. *Reinvested earnings* consists of the off-setting entry to the corresponding current account income item: it is the direct investor's share of the undistributed earnings of its branches, subsidiaries and associates. *Other capital* covers all other inter-affiliate financial transactions (borrowing and lending of funds), including debt securities and suppliers' credits (i.e. trade credits). Following the recommendations of the IMF, ECB, Eurostat and OECD, direct investment flows are recorded on a '*directional basis*' rather than the more usual assets/liabilities basis. *Direct investment abroad* covers the *net* investment by parent companies resident in Ireland in their foreign branches, subsidiaries and associated companies. *Direct investment in Ireland* covers the *net* investment by foreign companies in their affiliates located in Ireland. The essential difference between the directional principle and the assets/liabilities approach centres on the treatment of reverse investment by a direct investment enterprise in its parent (direct investor) and on the treatment of transactions with other foreign affiliates covered by a direct investment relationship. In the Irish context, reverse *equity* investment in a parent enterprise is rare and tends to be relatively small. However, substantial flows (and positions) under the category *direct investment – other capital* can take place. These predominantly take the form of inter-affiliate loans but trade credits and transactions in financial securities between affiliates are also included. The treatment of reverse investment has to be considered under three scenarios. First, for *reverse equity investment for holdings of 10% or more of the voting capital*, such transactions are regarded as separate direct investment in their own right for both the equity and non-equity involved. Second, for *reverse equity investment for holdings of less than 10% of the voting capital*, the transactions involved, whether in equity or non-equity instruments, are regarded as offsetting (or netted against) any existing direct investment by the parent in the enterprise. For example, if a US direct investor A invests €100m in a direct investment enterprise B located in Ireland and B acquires a small reverse equity investment of €3m in its parent (A) then the value of *direct investment in Ireland-equity* is €97m (i.e. €100m less €3m). Extending this example, if B advances a €30m loan to parent, A, *direct investment in Ireland-other capital* is €30m lower. Overall *direct investment in Ireland* from A to B is therefore €67m (i.e. €100m - €3m - €30m). The third scenario concerns a *non-equity transaction between enterprises related other than through equity ownership* (e.g. between 'sister' or 'cousin' companies). Given a number of considerations, there is some flexibility in the international standards regarding the treatment of this situation. In Ireland's case and in order to ensure that all inward and outward flows (and stocks) arising from an initial inward direct investment are retained within the *direct investment in Ireland* category, the same principle as for reverse equity or non-equity investment with a parent company is applied. The transaction referred to is therefore treated as offsetting any existing *other capital* investment. Again extending the earlier example, if

resident direct investment enterprise, B, advances a loan of €25m to a sister company, C, located in France, *direct investment in Ireland – other capital* is lowered by €25m and overall *direct investment in Ireland* from A to B amounts to €42m (i.e. €100m - €3m - €30m - €25m) – see diagram below. Cases occur on an ongoing basis where the outward investment flows or positions of B (or other sister direct investment enterprises located in Ireland) exceed the amounts attributable to A under *direct investment in Ireland*. The equivalent treatment is applied for similar situations categorised under *direct investment abroad*.



The compilation system for direct investment now includes investment by Irish residents (households) in residential property abroad. Such properties are regarded as constituting notional direct investment enterprises overseas and are treated accordingly in the system i.e. any relevant investment flows and stocks are included in the balance of payments and international investment statistics (current account flows - services or income are also of course, included in the balance of payments).

Portfolio investment covers the acquisition and disposal of equity and debt securities which cannot be classified under direct investment or reserve assets transactions. The securities involved are traded (or tradable) in organised and other financial markets. *Debt instruments* cover *bonds and notes* which have an original maturity term of more than one year and *money market instruments* with original maturity of one year or less. Investment by resident investors in commercial property abroad is also included in portfolio investment. Stocks, as presented in the tables, are valued at current market values on the reference date inclusive of any accrued income.

Other investment covers assets and liabilities other than those classifiable to direct investment, portfolio investment or reserve assets. It comprises loans, currency and deposits, short and long-term trade credits, financial derivatives and other accounts receivable and payable. Derivatives contracts refer to over-the-counter (OTC) and exchange-traded contracts and include options, futures, swaps, forwards, etc. For IIP purposes, all receipts and payments concerning financial derivative contracts are recorded appropriately as either assets or liabilities under *other investment*¹. It should be noted that stocks of the underlying financial instruments to which financial derivative contracts relate are categorised under the appropriate type of investment headings in the IIP. In principle, other investment transactions are valued at market valuation inclusive of accrued income. For loans, book values are accepted as a proxy for market values.

Reserve assets at national level in the context of EMU have been defined by the European Central Bank from 1 January 1999, the date of introduction of the euro currency, as: (a) qualifying assets which are under the effective control of the national monetary authority (i.e. the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland), and (b) consisting of highly liquid, marketable and credit-worthy foreign (non-euro) currency denominated claims on non euro-area residents together with gold, special drawing rights (SDRs) and the reserve position in the IMF. Up to 31 December 1998, the definition of reserve assets covered all foreign currency (non Irish Pound) denominated claims on non-residents of Ireland together with gold, SDRs and the reserve position in the IMF. Therefore, all claims on euro-area residents outside Ireland as well as euro-denominated claims on non euro-area residents, which prior to 1999 would have been classified as reserve assets, were from 1999 onwards classified to *portfolio investment* or to *other investment* as appropriate.

Broad sectoral analysis

This Release presents a broad institutional sector analysis of the portfolio investment and the other investment stocks. The sectors identified are: (i) *monetary authority* (i.e. the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland), (ii) *general government*, (iii) *monetary financial*

institutions excluding the monetary authority (i.e. credit institutions and money market funds) and (iv) *other sectors*.

Structure of the International Investment Position (IIP) tables

Within the overall categorisation of *assets* and *liabilities*, Table 1 of the Release shows the main components of the IIP covering the broad functional headings: *direct investment*, *portfolio investment*, *other investment* (including financial derivatives) and *reserve assets*. In the case of direct investment and in line with the quarterly BOP flow data for such transactions, the directional presentation referred to above is used i.e. *direct investment abroad* (which approximates to the assets concept) and *direct investment in Ireland* (which closely equates to liabilities). As described above, the difference between the two approaches centres on the treatment of reverse investment by a direct investment enterprise in its parent (direct investor); these transactions are generally relatively small. In this Release, under international standards, *direct investment abroad* is categorised under assets while *direct investment in Ireland* is included under liabilities. A further breakdown of the main functional investment headings by type of instrument (e.g. equities, bonds/notes, loans/deposits) is provided. For further analytical purposes, Table 2 shows a breakdown of the results by type of instrument and by institutional sector while Table 3 provides an analysis of IFSC and non-IFSC foreign assets and liabilities. Table 4 of the Release shows a reconciliation of the annual stocks and BOP flows over individual reference calendar year periods. In essence, this table attempts to directly link the IIP data to the Financial Account of the Balance of Payments and explains how the difference between two end-year positions can be accounted for by two main elements i.e. the relevant net BOP flows in the period (shown under '*BOP Flows in Year*') and the impact of valuation and other changes (shown under the heading '*Valuation and Other Changes*') occurring in the same period. Valuation changes can arise from movements in market prices or currency exchange rates or from stock revaluations, reclassifications or corrections. For any year, the opening position for each item is the IIP figure for the corresponding item at 31 December of the previous year; the closing position for an item is the IIP for that item at 31 December of that same year.

Reconciliation of stocks and flows

It is generally difficult to satisfactorily reconcile aggregate IIP stock data with the corresponding BOP flows over the reference period particularly if the BOP balancing item 'net errors and omissions' (which is not shown in this Release) is large. The net BOP flows shown are obtained from and compatible with the data published in the CSO's quarterly Release Balance of International Payments. The figures shown under valuation and other changes are in many cases quite significant but it is not possible at this point to distinguish the impact of market price changes in securities from those arising from currency exchange rate changes, most notably in relation to movements in the Euro rate against the US Dollar and against the £Sterling.

Sign convention and symbols

In all tables both assets and liability stocks are unsigned i.e. they are shown as positive numbers. The net IIP figures are calculated as assets less liabilities. Those having a negative sign represent net liability positions of Irish residents to non-residents while unsigned (or positive) figures represent net asset positions vis-à-vis non-residents. In Table 4 in which a reconciliation of IIP stocks and BOP flows is shown, a net BOP transactions increase in assets is shown as a positive (unsigned) number and a corresponding net decrease as a negative number. This conflicts with the standard sign convention for representing BOP asset flows in the quarterly Release (in which transactions increases in assets are shown as negative quantities and decreases as positive quantities) but this is unavoidable in a table reconciling assets stocks and flows. The sign convention for liability flows in Table 4 coincides with the normal BOP sign convention for liability transactions in the quarterly Release (i.e. transaction increases in liabilities are shown as positive quantities while transaction decreases are shown as negative quantities).

Amounts are shown in millions of Euro; '0' means amounts of less than 500,000 units of currency; '-' means 'not relevant'. Cell entries may not add to totals due to rounding.

Valuation

In principle, IIP statistics (like BOP flows) should be recorded using current market values at the reference date (31 December) and data providers are requested to report their data on this basis. In practice, this may not be possible in certain cases. Direct investment in equity capital is a particular case in point. Market valuation where not directly available is generally approximated using one of the following in order of preference: (a) a recent transaction price, (b) directors' valuation, or (c) net asset value.

Where stock data are converted from foreign currency to the Euro equivalent, data providers are required to use the spot rate for the relevant currency against the Euro on the reference date. Where positions are returned in non-Euro currency, the equivalent Euro valuation is obtained by applying the reference date spot exchange rate.

Valuation of stocks should also reflect accruals recording principles particularly in relation to unpaid interest and trade credits.

Residence As for BOP transactions, IIP asset and liability positions are created between residents of Ireland and non-residents. The term ‘resident’ covers (a) individuals, including foreign nationals, living in Ireland for at least one year as well as Irish embassy staff and military staff located abroad, (b) Irish government enclaves located abroad (embassies, consulates, etc.), and (c) corporate bodies who have a centre of economic interest located here, including branches of foreign-registered companies. It is important to note that transactions in foreign assets and liabilities can occur between residents of Ireland and appropriate account is taken of such transactions (when known) in the compilation of the IIP (and the Financial Account of the BOP).

Geographical allocation principle The so-called ‘debtor/creditor’ principle is used as the basic guideline for geographical allocation of foreign assets and liabilities. Asset positions are allocated to the country of residence of the debtor counterpart. As examples, (i) investment in a foreign security should be reported and classified to the country of residence of the issuer of the security; (ii) a loan advanced to a non-resident borrower should be reported and classified to the country of residence of the borrower. Liability positions should be allocated to the country of residence of the creditor counterpart. As examples: (i) investments by non-resident creditors in securities issued by a resident of Ireland should be allocated to the country of residence of the investor; (ii) take up of a loan advanced by a foreign bank should be allocated to the country of residence of the lending bank. Correct country allocation can sometimes be difficult on the liabilities side. In particular, it may not be possible to determine the residency of the actual owner/holder of bearer securities issued by an Irish resident since such securities can change hands without any re-registration of the new ownership. Similarly, correct geographical allocation can be difficult and sometimes impossible in the case of acquisitions by non-resident investors of Irish resident issued securities purchased through resident or non-resident nominee accounts. In such cases respondents give best estimates of the information required if the required details cannot be obtained from third party sources. In the case of direct investment, transactions are geographically attributed on the basis of country of location of immediate ownership of the direct investment enterprise rather than that of the ultimate beneficial owner. Therefore, if a US investor directly invests in a direct investment enterprise located in Ireland, the origin of the investment as presented in these statistics is US. If the US investor indirectly invests, through its Cayman Islands subsidiary, in an enterprise located in Ireland then the origin of the investment is Cayman Islands. In both cases, the country of location of the ultimate beneficial owner is US. This may have a significant impact on the geographic analysis of FDI statistics.

¹The inclusion of these receipts and payments in the financial account reflects the amended recommendations on the treatment of financial derivative transactions as described in the IMF’s *Financial Derivatives: A Supplement to the 5th Edition (1993) of the Balance of Payments Manual* published in 2000.